



April 27, 2022

**Producer Responsibility Program for Recycling
“YES” vote is requested on HB2-1355**

Dear Colorado State Legislators,

Thank you for considering HB22-1355. We are pleased with the current progress of the bill, but our local efforts alone cannot secure our waste goals. My April 8 Op-Ed¹ identifies Aspen’s bold local carbon reduction goals. The coordinated equitable approach of the Producer Responsibility Program for Recycling will pay for every resident, including multi-family households and rural resort communities, in Colorado to have recycling access. This will allow our community to redirect funds to advance hard to recycle materials and other waste prevention programs to reach towards our zero waste goals. The local landfill only has 8 years left of usable space and the loss of that resource will have multiple climate and economic impacts.

A “YES” vote on HB22-1355 will aid Aspen and all Colorado communities through sustainably financing and expanding recycling programs to reduce landfill waste and litter. Local governments, consumers and over 100 companies have publicly stated their support for this direct economic incentive to minimize packaging and promote sustainability. Further, we align with the Colorado Municipal League and Colorado Communities for Climate Action in their strong support for the Producer Responsibility policy to increase recycling rates in Colorado.

It is important to preserve our local choice with regard to recycling services and reduce expenses to provide same. We stand behind this strong partnership between state and local governments to improve waste diversion and recycling programs across the state in a manner that respects local control.

Sincerely,

Torre, Mayor
City of Aspen

¹ Torre, Op-Ed., *Producer Responsibility Can Turn Waste into a Resource*, The Aspen Times, April 8, 2022, at A15. <https://www.aspentimes.com/opinion/guest-commentary-producer-responsibility-can-turn-waste-into-a-resource/>